

**State of Maryland
ELEVATOR SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
Business Meeting Minutes**

DATE: October 23, 2015

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: 500 N. Calvert Street
2nd Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21202

PRESENT: Ed M. Hord, Chairman
Mike W. Moran
Charles E. Meeks
Rick J. Lowman
Don Greulich
Sonny Yeatman
Steven Joss

ABSENT: None

VACANCIES: Two (2) positions to be filled by the Governor's Office

STAFF PRESENT: Robin Bailey, Executive Director, Mechanical Boards
Larry Kreseski, Chief Elevator Inspector, Labor and Industry
Jessica Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Raquel M. Meyers, Administrative Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: Chris Cromwell, Bedco Mobility
George Boecker, IUEC Local 7
Matthew Aird, Premier Lifts
Tim Blair, Premier Lifts

Call to Order

Ed M. Hord, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Maryland Elevator Safety Review Board to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

The members of the Board reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on August 21, 2015, and Motion was made by Mr. Yeatman, seconded by Mr. Lowman, and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved without corrections.

Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's Report to offer.

Licensing Report Update

- Applications/Qualifications Review Committee

Mr. Lowman reported to the Board that the Applications/Qualifications Review Committee met and approved five (5) elevator mechanic license applications and one (1) elevator contractor application. One (1) elevator mechanic application was referred back to the applicant for additional information.

Upon Mr. Greulich's Motion, and Mr. Yeatman's second, the Board unanimously carried to accept the recommendations of the Applications/Qualifications Review Committee.

- Review of Examination Statistics and License Totals

Ms. Bailey reported that no candidates were tested in August and September, 2015. Since January 2015, the passing rate is 100%, and since the inception of the test the overall passing rate is 100%. There are currently 826 active licensees.

- Exam Update

Ms. Meyers informed the Board that the exam panel met on July 13, 2015, and August 7, 2015, to develop questions for the accessibility lift mechanic exam. The panel is working on completing the examination test questions and an update will be provided at the next meeting.

Old Business

COMAR 09.35.02 and .03, Renovator Regulations

Ms. Bailey informed the Board that a concept paper for COMAR 09.35.02 and .03, which were amended at the August 22, 2014, Board meeting has been completed and forwarded to Board Counsel for further review. Once Counsel approves the concept paper it will be forwarded to the Commissioner's office, then the final concept paper including the proposed regulations will be forwarded to the Secretary's office for final approval. Ms. Bailey stated that she will continue to update the Board with a status of these amended renovator regulations in the near future.

New Business

There was no New Business to offer.

Correspondence

A. Questions Concerning Current Elevator Codes

Mr. Hord stated that correspondence was received on September 17, 2015, from Tom Dietrich, Associate of CTA Architects Engineers regarding questions about current elevator codes. In response to this inquiry, Mr. Kreseski offered his response as a representative of the Division of Labor and Industry, as follows:

Question #1: Has the State or County referenced ASME A17.1 which states that elevator drainage systems have a minimum capacity of 3,000 GPH (50 GPM)?

Answer: The requirement to provide a sump pump minimum capacity of 3,000 gal/hr per elevator first appeared in the A17.1 Elevator Code 2007 edition (rule 2.2.2.5). Any installations under the 2007 code to present (2014) are required to comply, Existing installation prior to the 2007 code are not responsible to comply with requirement (but does not prohibit application).

Question #2: The sump pumps currently discharge into oil separators. Is the discharge from the separator allowed to drain to the storm drain, or will it be required to drain to the sanitary sewer? Most of the water infiltration is clean ground water.

Answer: The A17.1 rule 2.2.2.4 references sump pump water discharge to meet the plumbing code.

B. Elevator Testing

Mr. Hord stated that correspondence was received on October 2, 2015, from David Watson, IUEC Local 10 regarding the use of licensed elevator mechanics to test fire alarms that require access on top of elevators or in the elevator pit area. According to Mr. Watson, reports have been received that a particular school system's annual fire alarm testing may be being performed by unlicensed individuals who are accessing the top of the elevator and pit beneath the elevator. Mr. Watson inquired as what was the position of the State of Maryland is on this issue.

In response to this inquiry, Mr. Kreseski offered his response as follows: the law requires/defines that a person shall be licensed by the Board before the person erects, constructs, wires, alters, replaces, dismantles, or services elevator units in the State.

Fire alarm testing which requires access on top of elevator or elevator pit areas must meet the requirements of A17.1 Part 8 General Requirements. Group 1 "elevator personnel" rule 8.1.2 includes elevator mechanics and inspectors. Therefore, a person/tradesman other than an elevator mechanic or inspector may not "access" areas listed under Group 1 restrictions. However, they may enter areas under the supervision/oversight of Group 1 personnel. For example, a plumber/electrician may enter the pit area in order to repair/service sump pump equipment. A mason may need to enter hoistway for pointing up block or fire caulking etc. Group 2 rule 8.1.3 allows access to areas such as the machine room, control room etc. by "Authorized Personnel". Group 3 rule 8.1.4 references "emergency, authorized and elevator personnel" access or operation of equipment. Mr. Yeatman thanked Mr. Kreseski for his prompt response to Local 10.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Bailey stated that the Virginia State Board of Contractors met on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, regarding reciprocating elevator mechanic licenses with the State of Maryland. Adrienne Mayo, Education and Compliance Administrator from the Board of Contractors and Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board requested a copy of the Boards regulations, examination vendor candidate information/test bulletin and approved education/training providers. Ms. Meyers provided this information which was forwarded to Ms. Mayo on Wednesday, October 21, 2015. Mr. Hord stated to Ms. Bailey that he would like the Board to review their regulations, examination vendor candidate information/test bulletin and approved education/training providers if applicable. Ms. Bailey stated that she would provide the requested information prior to the next scheduled meeting. Mr. Hord also inquired about reciprocity with the other contingent states. Ms. Bailey stated to Mr. Hord that he would follow-up with the other contingent states and update the Board as information becomes available.

Counsel's Report

There was no Counsel's Report to offer.

Public Comments

Mr. Boecker from IEUC Local 7 inquired to the Board as to the status of regulations regarding the witnessing of elevator tests. AAG Carter stated that a concept paper has been submitted to the Secretary's office for approval she would update the Board as necessary in the near future.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., 500 N. Calvert Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

Adjournment

There being no further business, upon Mr. Lowman's Motion, and Mr. Moran's second, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

_____ Approved without corrections

_____ Approved with corrections

Ed M. Hord, Chairman

Date